

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed January 11, 2008. At that time, claims 1 and 5-16 were pending in the application. In the office action, claims 1 and 5-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of EP 0572248 (hereinafter "EP '248) over Younie (U.S. Patent No. 6,217,000). The Examiner also entered a non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 15 and 16 over U.S. Patent No. 7,204,951.

By this paper, claim 1 has been amended and a terminal disclaimer has been submitted in response to the double patenting rejection.

Interview with Examiner Edmund H. Lee

Applicants thank Examiner Edmund H. Lee for conducting a telephonic interview with Applicants attorney, Craig Metcalf, on March 27, 2008. At that time claim 1 was discussed, as was the outstanding office action. The prior art cited in the office action was discussed. The prior art references include EP '248 and the Younie patent. The Examiner suggested amending claim 1 to include the feature of a shrinkable core. The Examiner indicated that a claim of that scope would be considered allowable over the prior art.

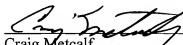
Discussion

As set forth above, claim 1 has been amended to include the feature that the core is "shrinkable" as suggested by the Examiner in the telephonic interview. Accordingly, Applicants believe that claim 1 and its dependent claims 5-14 are now in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner has previously allowed claims 15 and 16.

Furthermore, the Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance and request that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If there are any remaining issues preventing allowance of the pending claims that could be clarified by telephone, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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